



**San Diego County
Taxpayers
Association**

Targeting Waste • Promoting Efficiency

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Charter Amendment Recommendations of the San Diego County Taxpayers Association

1. Council Expansion and Mayoral Veto Authority

- Expand the Council with three new at-large representatives, for a total of 11 members. Require seven votes (63.6%) to override the mayoral veto. At-large representation will allow for citywide issues of interest to receive greater attention and prioritization.

2. Sunset Provision

- The strong-mayor form of government should continue. We must be honest with voters and avoid any opportunity for confusion. To that end, strike the words, "if voters do not repeal it by 2014" as suggested by the Charter Review Committee in the sentence: "Making permanent the strong-mayor form of government if voters do not repeal it by 2014."

3. Audit Committee

- Establish an Audit Committee consisting of five members composed of two members of the City Council, and three independent and qualified members of the public, one of whom shall serve as Chair. The public members shall be appointed by the City Council from a pool of candidates to be recommended by a screening committee comprised of the Chief Financial Officer, the Independent Budget Analyst, the City Attorney or his or her designee, a member of the City Council and two outside financial experts. The City Council shall determine the stipend per meeting, if any, for the public members of the Audit Committee.

4. Internal Auditor

- The Internal Auditor shall be separated from the current audit & comptroller position and named the "city auditor." The City Auditor shall be a Certified Public Accountant or a Certified Internal Auditor. The auditor shall be appointed by the Mayor, in consultation with the Audit Committee and subject to the City Council's confirmation. There shall be no term for the City Auditor. If a term is established, we recommend a six-year term. The City Auditor shall serve at the pleasure of the Audit Committee and may be dismissed by a 3-2 vote of the Audit Committee without cause, with a right to appeal to the City Council who can override the Audit Committee's action with a majority vote.

Adopted by the Board of Directors on September 21, 2007